

### The RASKC Pet Adoption Program

Mission Statement: To place as many healthy, adoptable pets in permanent homes as possible. In order to accomplish our mission we will:

- · Screen pets for health, temperament and suitability for placement into homes;
- · Match owners with the most compatible pets
- · Educate owners regarding laws and ordinances including proper care, confinement, licensing and spay/neuter.

### Choosing the Right Pet for You

Let our pet adoption specialists help you choose a pet that suits your lifestyle. Think carefully about what you and your family want from a pet – a quiet companion? An active playmate? A family friend? Every breed of dog and cat has unique characteristics and each individual pet is different.

When choosing a pet, answer these questions:

- · How much time do I have to spend caring for my pet?
- · Do I want an active or passive pet?
- · How much of my income can I spend on a pet?
- · Am I a patient person?
- · Why, exactly, do I want a pet?

The pet adoption specialists will be happy to discuss your needs in a pet and match the pet to you and your family.



Regional Animal Services of



**Pet Licensing** 

500 Fourth Avenue, Room 403

Licensing your pet is easy and an

inexpensive insurance policy for

your pet's safety and protection.

Pet licensing is also required by

law. Currently there are over 125

licensing locations. Call or visit

near you or simply click on the

Ouick Link to license online.

www.kingcounty.gov/pets for one

Seattle, WA 98104-2395

206-296-2712

### **Pet Adoption Center**

206-296-PETS (7387) Toll Free: 800-325-6165 21615 64th Avenue South Kent, WA 98032 pets@kingcounty.gov www.kingcounty.gov/pets

### Center Hours

Mon: 3 - 6 p.m. Tues - Fri: noon - 6 p.m. Sat - Sun: noon - 5 p.m.



www.twitter.com/kcpets



www.facebook.com/KCPetsRegionalAnimalShelter

## King County

Regional Animal Services of King County provides animal sheltering and field services to contracting cities within King County, and the unincorporated areas.



# **ADOPT** R A S CC

Regional Animal Services of



A Prospective Pet Owner's Guide to Adoption from King County **Pet Adoption** Center.





After you've thought about your preferences in a new pet, it's time to...

### Visit Our Pet Adoption Center

Welcome and thank you for choosing the Pet Adoption Center to look for a new pet. To view the animals, please take a walk through the adoption center and note the kennel/cage number of any pet you may be interested in adopting. This number will allow the pet adoption specialist to give you information about the pet. Please do not open cages; always ask for assistance.

To ensure the best potential for a successful adoption, some pets may not be adoptable due to illness or other circumstances.

### Adoption Day

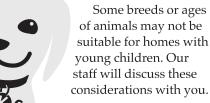
The pet adoption specialists are there specifically to help you choose the right pet. They are familiar with animal behavior, basic health care, customer service and human/companion animal bonding. They are pet owners and lovers themselves. Trust them to help you make the right decision – for you and your potential new pet.

The adoption process will take 20-30 minutes during which time the adoption specialists will help you:

· Complete the adoption application

· Select a pet that best fits your interests

· Understand current laws and regulations



### How Much Does It Cost?

For current fees, please call our Pet Adoption Center directly at 206-296-PETS (7387) or toll free at 1-800-325-6165. The adoption fee includes all the pet will need for a great start in its new home including:

· Spay/neuter surgery · Collar · Adoption services · Leash

Vaccination
 Veterinary health
 examination
 King County Pet License
 Optional microchipping
 for an additional \$25.00

Please consider the additional expenses you may incur with the adoption of a new pet:

Yearly vaccinations and check-up
Yearly pet license
Obedience classes
Emergency
Toys
Veterinary care
Beds
Flea control
Boarding
Worming
Tood
Toys
Beds
Litter

### **Coming Home**

In most cases, your pet will already be spayed/neutered. In those cases where surgery cannot be performed, for example for health or age reasons, you can make a special deposit of \$50.00 which can be refunded once the surgery is performed. Please have a carrier with you to safely transport your pet home.

Once at home, make your pet comfortable in an enclosed area – the laundry room, bathroom or kitchen. Give your pet time to adjust. Be quiet, calm, loving and gentle and your pet will come to love and trust you. Keep other pets at a distance for a day or so and let small children get to know the pet gradually.

Teach your pet the house rules from the beginning. Don't scold your pet for chewing your new boots! Be firm and patient – never yell or hit your pet.





It takes 2-4 weeks for a new pet to adjust to your home and family.

If your pet becomes ill, see a veterinarian immediately. Unfortunately, adoption center pets may not have been vaccinated by their previous owners and they have been exposed to other animals on the streets and in the kennel. Only about 5% of adopted pets develop untreatable illnesses. Early veterinary care can save your pet's life! Please call us if there are any health problems.

If your pet is not sterilized before going home, please notify us as soon as the surgery is done – or if there is a delay due to illness or other reason. All pets must be sterilized by the date on your adoption contract.

Finally, we'll be more than happy to assist you with any problems or concerns – please call us before the problem becomes too big.

Don't expect your pet to be perfect – he/she certainly won't expect you to be.

### Think Ahead

Be realistic about the time, energy and money you are willing and able to invest in a pet. Are you ready to make this commitment for the lifetime of the animal? Take the time to learn about animal behavior, training techniques ("Rubbing his nose in it" is NOT the best way to house train a dog!), pet care and breed characteristics (a Cocker Spaniel may not be the best choice for a home with children).

choice for a home with children). This will help you to make an educated decision about the animal you choose to bring into your home. Planning ahead and making an honest evaluation of your lifestyle will make the adoption of a new pet an enjoyable experience for the both of you!

